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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroaki ITO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3754

Serial No.: 10/648,473

Examiner: James F. Hook

Filed: August 27, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 5736

FOR: AUTOMOTIVE FUEL HOSE

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 24, 2006

Sir:

This is in response to the Action dated March 24, 2006, in the above-identified application.

In the Action, it was alleged that the Amendment filed January 6, 2006, was non-responsive. In particular, it was alleged that the Amendment did not address the outstanding rejections under 35 USC § 103(a) over the patents to Katayama et al, since the claim for priority to the Japanese priority patent application having a filing date of August 30, 2002, was not perfected and thus the Katayama et al patents were not removed as effective art references. The stated reasons that priority allegedly was not perfected were (1) the translation of the Japanese application did not translate the names of the inventors, and (2) it was not confirmed that the Japanese application was to the same